

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BUENOS 03701 131727Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00
SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 HA-05 MCT-01 IO-13 PC-01
/077 W

-----098174 131728Z /43

O 131658Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5706

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 3701

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM, AR
SUBJECT: HARGUINDEGUY'S SPEECH TO THE POLICE GATHERS WEIGHT

REF: BUENOS AIRES 3423

1. ON MAY 3 INTERIOR MINISTER HARGUINDEGUY TOLD THE ASSEMBLED CHIEFS OF POLICE IN HIS CUSTOMARY BLUNT AND UNEQUIVOCAL FASHION THAT THEY HAD BETTER ASSURE THAT THEIR TROOPS STOPPED USING TERRORIST TACTICS AND RESUME THEIR TRADITIONAL ROLE (REFTEL). THIS KIND OF TALK TO THIS PARTICULAR AUDIENCE HAS AWAKENED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS SUGGEST IT MAY HAVE BEEN A SERIOUS SIGNAL THAT THERE IS GENUINE COMMITMENT WITHIN THE GOA TO CLEANING UP THE COUNTER-TERRORIST OPERATIONS.

2. IN ITS LEAD EDITORIAL OF MAY 6, LA NACION STRONGLY SUPPORTED THE MINISTER'S WORDS AND HIS OBJECTIVES. THIS PAPER AS OFTEN AS NOT CARRIES MESSAGES FOR THE PALACE. ON MAY 5 JAMES GOODSSELL OF THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR ASKED THE MINISTER IN AN INTERVIEW IF THE SAME ORDERS THE POLICE RECEIVED HAD BEEN GIVEN TO THE MILITARY, WHO CARRY OUT MUCH OF THE COUNTER-SUBVERSIVE OPERATION. THE MINISTER REPLIED THAT SIMILAR ORDERS, THOUGH NOT IN IDENTICAL WORDS, HAD INDEED

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BUENOS 03701 131727Z

D
BEEN SENT OUT TO THE MILITARY COMMANDS. WHEN GOODSSELL CHALLENGED HIM

WITH INCIDENTS SUCH AS THE NUNS AND THE SAN JUSTO ABDUCTIONS, HARGUINDEGUY EXPRESSED REGRET FOR INCIDENTS WHICH HAD OCCURRED IN THE PROCESS OF CLEANING UP SUBVERSION - WHICH WAS A WAR - BUT HE ADDED THAT "WE DON'T EXPECT REOCCURRENCES IN THE FUTURE." ASKED IF THE

"WE" HE REFERRED TO WAS THE JUNTA, THE MINISTER SAID "WE" MEANT
PRESIDENT VIDELA AND HIMSELF.

3. THE ACTING NUNCIO SOUGHT OUT AN AMBASSY OFFICER THIS WEEK AND
RAISED THE SPEECH, SAYING THAT IT STRUCK HIM AS AN EVENT OF POTENTIAL
MAJOR SIGNIFICANCE. PRESIDENT VIDELA'S COMMITMENT TO THIS LINE HAS
NOW BEEN CONFIRMED BY TWO SOURCES, AMBASSADOR TO THE US AJA ESPIL WHO
SAW HIM ON MAY 8, AND GENERAL VIOLA WHO TOLD THE AMBASSADOR ON MAY 12
THAT HARGUINDEGUY HAD SET FORTH THE PROGRAM THAT VIDELA WANTED
CARRIED OUT.

4. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SPEECH MUST BE SEEN IN THE LIGHT OF
MINISTER HARGUINDEGUY'S CUSTOMARY ROLE AS A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HARD
LINE, OF THE HITHERTO SACRED DOCTRINE THAT ANYTHING WAS JUSTIFIED IN
THE NAME OF ELIMINATING SUBVERSION, AND THAT TACTICS OF COUNTER-
TERRORIST OPERATIONS WERE NOT A SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION. THIS IS
CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS IN WORD; WE SHALL BE WATCHING FOR ACCOMPANYING
PROGRESS IN DEED.
CASTRO

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, COUNTERINSURGENCY, SPEECHES, POLICE FORCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BUENOS03701
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780204-0087
Format: TEL
From: BUENOS AIRES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780561/aaaabzvk.tel
Line Count: 81
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 801c969f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 BUENOS AIRES 3423
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2699586
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HARGUINDEGUY'S SPEECH TO THE POLICE GATHERS WEIGHT
TAGS: SHUM, ASEC, PINS, AR, (HARGUINDEGUY, ALBANO EDUARDO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/801c969f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014